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Artists of Abraham Lincoln portraits

Karl E. Johnson

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

KARL E. JOHNSON

Seir Hill, Norwalk, Conn.
July 27 1949

Dr. Louis A. Warren, Director
Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Ind.

Dear Dr. Warren:

I am taking the liberty of sending you the enclosed photo of my painting of Lincoln, hoping that the Foundation might be interested in it, and if not, that you might know someone who would like to have it for their home, or office, directors' room, or possibly a school.

The head of Lincoln in this portrait was developed from several of the well known photographs, but mostly from the last one taken by Alexander Gardner several days before his death.

I have never seen a photograph of Lincoln sitting in the low rocker, so the posture and spirit of the portrait is my own conception.

The painting is life size, on a canvas 30 by 40 inches.

The next time that you or any of your associates come to New York, I would like nothing better than the opportunity of showing it.

Your reaction in regard to my painting, should you care to give it to me, will be most sincerely appreciated.

Very truly yours

Karl E. Johnson



PHOTOCOPY
(original in safe)

PHOTOCOPY
(original in safe)


Painted by

Karl E. Johnson

3 in Hill, Norwalk, Conn

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Charles d'Emery
of
Manugian Studies
South Norwalk, Conn



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<http://archive.org/details/artistsofabrjlinc>

August 2, 1949

Mr. Karl E. Johnson
Seir Hill,
Norwalk, Connecticut

My dear Mr. Johnson:

Although hundreds of original paintings have been made of Abraham Lincoln, I think you have caught the President in an entirely different pose, and very happily shown in one of his more pleasant moments.

I regret sincerely that we are not in the market for such a fine piece of work, but we will keep your canvas in mind in case we have inquiries about modern interpretations of Lincoln.

Very truly yours,

LAW:EB

Director

August 2, 1909

Mr. Carl E. Johnson
Katy Hill,
Council, Connecticut
My dear Mr. Johnson:

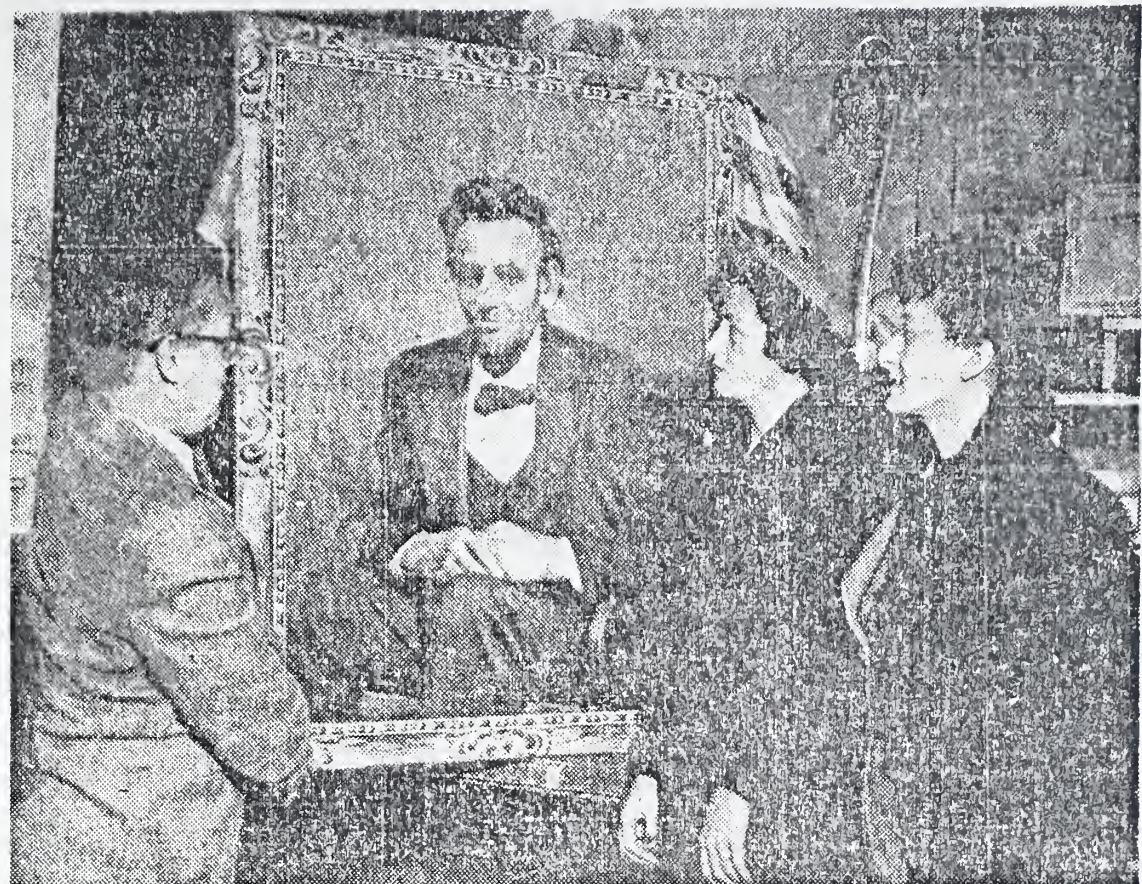
Although hundreds of original paintings have been
made of Northern Alaska, I think you have never seen
one in an entirely different pose, and very happily
shown in one of the most pleasant manner.

I remain sincerely that we are not in the matter
for such a fine piece of work, but we will keep your
counsel in mind in case we have further good material
for publication of Alaska.

Very truly yours,

Dawson

Lawson



Post photo Dec-erho
Duane Barrett, assistant display manager at Read's, left, shows Karl E. Johnson's new picture of Abraham Lincoln to Mrs. Alexander B. Gudzin, center, and Mrs. R. Neale Dana, former artist at Read's, right. The picture is being shown for the first time to the public in one of Read's Broad street windows Feb. 9 to 12.

LINCOLN PORTRAIT SHOWN AT READ'S

A new portrait of Abraham Lincoln, showing the Emancipator seated in a low rocking chair, is being displayed in Read's store, in a Broad street window. It will be on display until Monday in honor of the 141st birthday of the Civil War President.

The portrait is the work of Karl E. Johnson, of Seir Hill, Norwalk, nationally known muralist and portrait painter. Many of his works, including portraits of former Governor Raymond E. Baldwin, and Mrs. Baldwin, have been displayed in previous years in the store's Peacock Alley gallery.

Mr. Johnson's Lincoln portrait is the result of long study of photographs and paintings of the famous President, principally from studies of the last photographs made before his assassination. Lincoln had a low rocker which he liked to sit in but rarely found time to enjoy.

Dr. Louis A. Warren, Director of the Lincoln National Foundation at Fort Wayne, Indiana, who had seen a photograph of Mr. Johnson's painting wrote to the artist: "Although hundreds of original paintings have been made of Abraham Lincoln, I think you have caught the President in an entirely different pose and a happy one, shown in one of the pleasant moments."

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